



# Sussex County Community News

*Good Things are Happening in Sussex County!*

May 2016

Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1



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#### Inside this issue:

Introduction	1
Board of Supervisors	1
Chairman's Corner	1
Comm/Econ Develop	2
Waverly News	3
Project Lifesaver	4
Accomplishments/Events	6
BOS Meetings/Holidays	7

## Message from County Administration

Welcome to our first edition of the Sussex County Community Newsletter! The Community Newsletter will be published three times a year. Our purpose is to share information and keep our citizens and community up-to-date and involved in current events/issues as submitted for the County and its four towns—Jarratt, Stony Creek, Wakefield and Waverly.

The County looks forward to this new endeavor with great enthusiasm and excitement that we start this new endeavor.



### \*Board of Supervisors 2016

**Keith C. Blowe, Chairman**  
Stony Creek District

**Susan B. Seward, Vice Chair**  
Blackwater District

**C. Eric Fly, Sr., Supervisor**  
Courthouse District

**Alfred G. Futrell, Supervisor**  
Waverly District

**John A. Stringfield**  
Wakefield District

**Rufus E. Tyler, Sr.**  
Henry District

**\*For contact information, please visit [www.sussexcountyva.gov](http://www.sussexcountyva.gov) or call the County Administrator's Office at 434.246.1000.**

## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Hello citizens of Sussex County. I am excited about this first edition of the Sussex County newsletter which is for you the citizens. Our County staff works extremely hard for each of you, but in the past the staff has not done a good job of keeping you (citizens) informed of their accomplishments. This newsletter is meant to help keep our citizens informed of activities within the county. In each edition, published quarterly, I will use the "Chairman's Corner" section to address items of concern from my position as Board Chairman. It is my sincere hope and expectation that future Chairperson's will continue to use this section for that purpose.



*Keith C. Blowe, CPP*  
Chairman,  
Board of Supervisors

## Sussex County Board of Supervisors Priorities 2016

What is the County staff doing? I'm so glad you asked! Along with many other things staff is doing, back in January 2016, Chairman Blowe presented a draft of Priorities for guidance to the County Administrator and staff for the upcoming year to the Board of Supervisors' consideration. The subtasks approved by the Board of Supervisors included the following:

- Economic Development:
  - Identify Additional Funding Streams
  - Shovel Ready Sites
  - County Clean-up/Beautification Plan
  - County Newsletter
- Broadband
  - Options for County-wide Connectivity
  - Technology Working Group
  - Customer Service Satisfaction Survey
  - County Cell Coverage
  - Video-Tape Board Meetings
- ♦ Strategic Plan
  - Short -Term Goals—2016 Priorities
  - Long-Term Goals-
    - Quality Grocery Stores
    - Library Facilities
- ♦ FY2017 Budget
  - Paperless Strategy
  - Vacant Positions/Restructuring
  - Volunteers



## Community and Economic Development News

### Cabin Point Road Industrial Park Water and Sewer Line Extensions



On January 12, 2016, the Virginia Tobacco Commission awarded Sussex County \$290,073.00 to assist with the extension of water and sewer service mains to Route 602 (Cabin Point Road) Industrial Park. The County owns approximately 156 acres of land at the intersection of Route 460 and Route 602. Proposed improvements include approximately 3,600 feet of 6-inch diameter sanitary sewer and approximately 760 linear feet of 12-inch diameter waterline. Construction will occur on the north side of Route 460 with bores under Routes 460 and 602 required for the sanitary sewer force main and water

main extensions.

The engineered design plans have been completed and bids for construction are due to the County of May 10, 2016.

### Sussex County Megasite

On May 21, 2015, the Virginia Tobacco Commission awarded Sussex County \$829,350.00 to assist with development of the County's megasite located on Route 626 (Beefsteak Road). The funds are being utilized to complete the engineering design for the upgrade/expansion of the Black Swamp Wastewater Treatment Plant, to prepare plans for the extension of waterlines to the site, to design a 750,000 gallon elevated water storage tank, and to prepare a wetlands mitigation study/master plan.



### Pocahontas Neighborhood Improvement Study

On December 14, 2015, Sussex County ing from the Virginia Department of Hous- The funds are being used to conduct a located within the Town of Wakefield re- conducting door-to-door surveys to project tions, assessing infrastructure conditions, munity Improvement Grant application to



received \$30,000.00 in Planning Grant Fund- ing and Community Development (VDHCD). Neighborhood Improvement Study in an area ferred to as Pocahontas. The study will involve area residents, performing housing inspec- and the preparation and submittals of a Com- VDHCD I March of 2017.

### "Waverly Matters"

Congratulations to the County of Sussex for publishing your First Quarterly Newsletter. The Town of Waverly appreciates the opportunity to take part in this move to share information across the spectrum of our County.

The Town of Waverly, welcomes and is delighted to share with the community our new staff members: Mrs. Anne Ellis, Clerk of Council; Mrs. Demetria Parker, Clerk Assistant; Officer Darryl Davis and Officer Adrienne Swope. Furthermore, we say "Farewell and Best of Luck" in your continued journey to our recently departed staff: Ms. Dachele Alston, Mrs. LaVerne Ford, Mr. William Taylor and Sergeant John Schmidt.

Also, the Town of Waverly wishes to "Recognize" and "Thank" the Sussex County Board of Supervisors and County Administration for their support, guidance and all of the assistance provided during the February 2016 Tornado tragedy. Your presence was noticeable and made a difference! Again, Thank You!



Behind the scenes: The Town Staff continues to triumph enormous sweeping chal- lenges; like, the Tornado tragedy, Tornado Recovery Efforts, Water Well and Tank Projects, Harris P25 Radio System Projects, Gibson Park Project, Town's 2016/2017 Annual Budget Project, and the Two-Year Financial Audit. Additionally, Jackson and Huber Lane Project; Fire Department Roof Project; and Water Improvement Grant/ Loan Application Process..

### **“Waverly Matters” - Cont’d.**

Similarly, attending to Citizen’s concerns that include:

- Water Quality Concerns
- Siren Emergency Notification System
- Old Pipelines
- Abandoned and Deteriorating Homes and Buildings
- Waverly Tornado Recovery Donation Fund



The Governing Body and Town Hall Staff are busy resolving yesterday’s dilemmas, while managing daily operations and planning for tomorrow to care for the citizens and people we serve!

Thank you for your services!

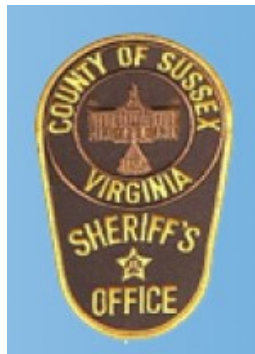
### **SUSSEX SHERIFF’S OFFICE JOINS PROJECT LIFESAVER -**

**A SEARCH & RESCUE SERVICE TO PROTECT THOSE WITH  
COGNITIVE CONDITIONS WHO WANDER**

#### ***Sussex Sheriff Office Provided with Training, Certification, Equipment and Support to Help Those Who Wander***

Sussex County, VA, April 4, 2016 —Sussex Sheriff Office announced today that they are bringing the Project Lifesaver program to Sussex County. Designed to track and rescue those with cognitive conditions who tend to wander, this service answers a critical need for protecting people at risk of wandering, including those with Alzheimer’s,

Project Lifesaver International, the lead-cue (SAR) programs, will conduct ongoing management and support to 6 public safety officials how to use the communicate with people who wander, versed in the program – all of which are



ing organization in electronic search and restatory training and provide certification, on-officers. Their training includes teaching equipment and how to gain the trust of and as well as to ensure that caregivers are well essential to a successful rescue.

Clients enrolled in the service will wear a wrist-watch sized radio transmitter on their wrist or ankle. The transmitter constantly emits a Radio Frequency signal, which can be tracked regardless of where the person has wandered—even into a densely wooded area, a marsh, a concrete structure such as a garage, or a building constructed with steel. When a loved one goes missing, caregivers notify locally trained agencies and they are dispatched to the wanderer’s area and the average rescue time remains around 30 minutes.

## SUSSEX SHERIFF'S OFFICE JOINS PROJECT LIFESAVER - Cont'd.

Lt. Valarie Patterson-Ricks, states on behalf of the Sussex Sheriff Office we are excited about joining Project Lifesaver. **Project Lifesaver not only saves time, money, resources, but most of all, Project Lifesaver saves lives and we are proud to offer it to the citizens in Sussex County.**

Project Lifesaver develops public outreach programs to educate others about the issue of wandering, and they constantly work toward developing public policy and effective law enforcement response to help save lives and “bring loved ones home.”

This service will be available on April 23, 2016. Families and caregivers can enroll their loved ones by contacting Lt. Valarie Patterson-Ricks at 434-246-5361. For those families or caregivers who cannot afford the service, they are encouraged to check with their local agency for available options, or call Project Lifesaver for grant opportunities.

For more information, please contact Project Lifesaver at 1-877-580-LIFE (5433) or [www.projectlifesaver.org](http://www.projectlifesaver.org).

### *About Project Lifesaver International*

Established in 1999, Project Lifesaver International (PLI) is a non-profit organization that is committed to helping families quickly find their loved ones who wander because of Alzheimer's, Down syndrome, dementia, and autism. Headquartered in Chesapeake, Va., Project Lifesaver works with local law enforcement agencies in more than 1,400 communities in 48 states, the District of Columbia and six provinces in Canada to protect some of society's most vulnerable citizens. PLI provides training and support to all agencies and continues to work with organizations on education and awareness regarding the issue of wandering. Visit [www.projectlifesaver.org](http://www.projectlifesaver.org).





## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

First time Board of Supervisors member, Keith C. Blowe, was selected for Chairman at its January 21, 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting.

As a result, Chairman Blowe has completed and has enrolled in training to help successfully fulfill his role in his new position. His training includes:

- Completing the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) Chairman Institutes Training. The Institute offers a professional learning experience that provides detail on the structure and functions of county government, active leadership, communications, meeting management, decision making, working strategically to achieve important goals, building partnerships with local staff, board colleagues, the media and other government entities.
- Enrolling in VACo Board of Supervisors (BOS) Certification Program. The Certification Program is an 18-month program to obtain BOS Certification in which the Supervisor obtains classroom instructions along with at-home studies as well.

## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

**SUSSEX CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL**  
**COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY**  
**Friday, June 10, 2016—7 pm**



Coordinated by  
 Sussex County Housing Dept  
 233L South County Drive  
 Waverly, VA 23890

**Stony Creek District** held its first District Town Hall meeting on March 26, 2016 at Galilee Baptist Church in Stony Creek, Virginia. Town Hall meetings will be held every 2–3 months at the same location and time.

### ATLANTIC WASTE



### AMNESTY DAYS SCHEDULE

**September 14th–17th**

**If you have any questions or concerns,  
 please call 804.834.8300.**

**\*Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting Schedule**

May 19, 2016	September 15, 2016
June 16, 2016	October 20, 2016
July 21, 2016	November 17, 2016
August 18, 2016	December 15, 2016

\*All Regular Board of Supervisors Meetings are scheduled for 7:00 p.m. and are held at the Sussex Judicial Center, General District Court Room, 15098 Courthouse Road, Sussex, Virginia 23884,

\*\*Additional meetings may be added as needed.

**Come join in a lively discussion!!**

**COUNTY WIDE STAFF MEETING**

**July 28, 2016 @ 9 a.m.**

**Location:**

**Sussex Central Middle School  
Media Center**

**Department Heads &  
Constitutional Officers**

***Updating Staff  
Interchanging Information***



**Holiday Closings**

May 30—Memorial Day

July 4—Independence Day

September 5—Labor Day

October 10—Columbus Day

November 11—Veteran's Day

**\*\*November 23—12 Noon Thanksgiving**

November 24-25 Thanksgiving

December 23—Christmas Observed

December 26—Christmas Observed

**\*County Offices Closed**

**\*\*Close at 12 Noon**

**Submissions**

If you wish to submit any events, news, corrections and/or suggestions, please send information via regular mail (see address on front page), fax to 434.246.6013 or e-mail to [sricks@sussexcountyva.gov](mailto:sricks@sussexcountyva.gov) or call Sussex County Administration Office at 434.246.1000.

Submissions are due by August 1st and should be sent in Word format. The next edition of the Sussex County Newsletter is scheduled for September 6th.



*"Unity is strength....when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved."*—*Mattie Stepanek*

